

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-07 EB-11 FPC-01 AEC-11 SCI-06 AID-20

CIEP-03 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 OPIC-12 DODE-00 DRC-01

/194 W

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R 301815Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4758

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13837

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, UR, GW

SUBJECT: POWER FOR BERLIN

REF: A. BONN 11240; B. BERLIN A-70

1. AN FRG ECONOMICS MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHs HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM NOWIKOW IN RESPONSE TO FRIDERICHs' LETTER (SEE REFTTEL A). IN HIS REPLY, NOWIKOW STATED THAT POLAND AND THE GDR ARE AGREED TO THE TRANSMISSION OF ELECTRICAL POWER ACROSS THEIR TERRITORY TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

2. ON THE QUESTION OF INCLUDING BERLIN IN THIS POWER
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SYSTEM, THE NOWIKOW LETTER IS CAUTIOUS. IT NOTES THAT

DUE TO "TECHNICAL PROBLEMS" THERE WILL NEED TO BE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIETS AND THE FRG. OUR SOURCE TELLS US THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY INTERPRETS THIS IN THE NARROW SENSE AND BELIEVES THERE ARE CERTAIN TECHNICAL PROBLEMS, RATHER THAN POLITICAL ONES, TO OVERCOME. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ELECTRICAL LINE WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO GO TO FRANKFURT AM MAIN BUT SINCE IT WOULD INTERFERE WITH EXPLOITATION OF CERTAIN GDR COAL DEPOSITS IT WILL NOW PROBABLY GO TO HANNOVER. IN ANY CASE OUR SOURCE TAKES A VERY RELAXED VIEW OF THE WHOLE PROBLEM AND BELIEVES THE REMAINING TECHNICAL QUESTIONS CAN BE SOLVED PRIOR TO FRIDERICH'S TRIP TO MOSCOW IN OCTOBER IF NOT SOONER.

3. OUR SOURCE CONFIRMED THAT THE POWER TO BE DELIVERED WILL COME FROM ONE NUCLEAR POWER STATION TO BE BUILT BY THE FRG IN THE MEMEL AREA. IN ADDITION HE SAID THE FRG HOPES TO DISCUSS POWER DELIVERIES FROM POLAND WITH OLSZEWSKI, DEPUTY PREMIER AND FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER, DURING THE LATTER'S VISIT TO BONN IN MID-OCTOBER. HE SAID THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY HOPES TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC QUESTIONS WITH OLSZEWSKI AND HOPES TO GET AROUND THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE SO FAR BLOCKED CONCLUSION OF THE VARIOUS FRG/POLISH TALKS.

4. OUR SOURCE INDICATED THE FRG DOES NOT EXPECT TO NEGOTIATE WITH GDR OVER THE SOVIET POWER DELIVERIES AND HE CITED THE FRG-USSR GAS DEAL AS A MODEL. HE NOTED THAT THOSE NEGOTIATIONS NEVER INCLUDED THE CZECHS.
CASH

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